

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an improved computer input device having one, two, or three buttons like a conventional computer mouse. The direction and amount of movement of this input device is determined by processing the images of a work surface under the computer input device, and this information is used to control a cursor on a computer screen. One tip being located at one end of the input device is attached to a switch. A "click button" signal is generated when a user's hand holding the input device depresses and releases the input device against a work surface. One or two other buttons and a wheel may be included on the body of the input device and can be operated by a user's index finger or thumb.